

# Project Proposal

**Proposal Title:** White Sage (M.S.)

**Proposal Number:** 1168

**DWR Region:** Southern Region

**Lead Agency:** Private

**County:** Kane

**Project Manager:** Mark Spencer

**PM Phone:** 4358656113

**Regional Priority:** Within Focus Area

**Project Type:** Terrestrial Habitat

**Proposed Start Date:** 8/1/2009

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**Project Location:** East of Kanab on Hwy 89 and 1 mile south. At the base of the Buckskin Mtn.

**Project Description:** Disc and seed approximately 300 acres - Install a water catchment (125,000 gallon capacity) and three troughs.

**Description of Problem/Need:** This area is comprised of old decadent sagebrush with no age class diversity and little to no forb or grass component. Washes in the area are down-cutting and erosion is occurring. The even age class decadent sagebrush with no herbaceous understory increases the risk of catastrophic wildfire. A catastrophic wildfire could also increase the risk of invasive species, cause loss of habitat, and increase erosion.

**Objectives:** Increase age class structure and diversity of sagebrush  
Increase grass and forb frequency by 25% from existing condition  
Increase water availability on 5000 or more acres

**Relevance to Strategic Plans:** This project is located in Shrub steppe habitat. Shrub steppe habitats cover over 13 percent of Utah's surface, making them among the most abundant habitats in the state. While shrub steppe areas still remain across the state, they are in poor condition and sagebrush plants in particular are not as healthy as they once were. Mule deer also are closely connected to shrub steppe habitats, especially in winter. The project area is located in a focus area as crucial mule deer winter range. Crucial habitats depend on periodic fires to stay healthy. Fire control efforts and invasive species have disrupted this natural cycle in the project area, leaving an even age stand of decadent sagebrush with little to no understory of grasses and forbs.

Project Relevance to other planning documents:

1. Permanently protect certain key shrubsteppe habitats and restore degraded habitats wherever possible.
3. Reintroduce natural fire patterns through prescribed burns and by reducing populations of invasive species. (this would be accomplished through treatments)
4. Research and monitor shrubsteppe habitats. (Nested frequency monitoring pre and post would occur).
5. Establish partnerships with state and federal agencies and private landowners to address threats to shrubsteppe

**Potential Risks:** During construction some wildlife species might be displaced, however they would be expected to return following completion of the project. The chance that the project would be successful is almost 100 percent.

**Proposed Methods:** Landowner will provide equipment and labor necessary to construct and install the water catchment (1 acre HDPE apron) and associated troughs. Landowner will also provide equipment and labor necessary to disc and reseed approximately 300 acres.

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**Shapefile Name:** S:\DWR\HPD-2010\GIS Shape Files\1168.shp

**Seed Source:** GBRC

**UPCD Reg Team Coord Date:** 1/16/2008

**Proposed NEPA Action:**

**Proposed Arch Action:**

☒ **Vegetation Monitoring** ☐ **Wildlife Monitoring**

**Monitoring Information:** Photo points will be established and recorded at two locations within the project area. Photos will be re-taken every year for 3 years to show establishment of seeded species.

**Grazing Management:** Areas seeded within the pasture would be rested from grazing for a minimum of two completed growing season in order to allow the seedlings to become established and set seed.

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## SPECIES BENEFITING

Monday, March 16, 2009 1:01:15 PM

# Project Proposal

Mule Deer

Gambel's Quail

Bobcat

Chukar

Cougar

## LAND OWNERSHIP

Owner	Acres
Private	300
<b>Total</b>	<b>300</b>

## PROPOSED FUNDING

Source	Amount Requested	Date Approved	Amount Approved
NRCS	\$19,000.00		\$19,000.00
GIP	\$25,000.00		\$0.00
Unfunded Balance	\$25,000.00		\$0.00
Private	\$42,000.00		\$42,000.00
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$111,000.00</b>		<b>\$61,000.00</b>

## PROPOSED BUDGET

Item	Description	DWR Account	Partner Contrib.
Materials and Supplies	HDPE Apron	\$25,000.00	\$11,000.00
Materials and Supplies	Storage Tank	\$0.00	\$12,500.00
Materials and Supplies	Pipeline	\$0.00	\$20,000.00
Materials and Supplies	3 troughs @\$1400/each	\$0.00	\$4,200.00
Materials and Supplies	Fence materials (For storage tank and apron)	\$0.00	\$6,800.00
Other	Equipment and labor to disc 250 acres	\$0.00	\$13,500.00
Other	Equipment and labor to seed 300 acres	\$0.00	\$18,000.00
<b>Totals</b>		<b>\$25,000.00</b>	<b>\$86,000.00</b>

## Project Map:

